

SENATE RESOLUTION 89
By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Debbie Morrisett on being honored as the Whitesburg Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Morrisett is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Morrisett has recently been selected as the Whitesburg Elementary School Teacher of the Year, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, a first grade teacher, Debbie Morrisett holds a Master of Science in Elementary Education from Middle Tennessee State University and a Bachelor of Science from Carson-Newman College; she has also earned 45 additional graduate hours; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Morrisett has served with acumen and alacrity as a teacher with Whitesburg Elementary School since 1991; and

WHEREAS, at Whitesburg Elementary School, Debbie Morrisett is the coordinator for the Christmas Program, a member of the School Improvement Committee and the Title I Planning Committee, and a sponsor of parent workshops; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Morrisett further serves her school as a participant in Thoughtful Classroom training and Using Data for School Improvement and as a mentor teacher; and

WHEREAS, to further hone her considerable teaching abilities, Debbie Morrisett has participated in numerous continuing education classes and workshops, including the Title I

Conference, Increase Individual Achievement and Value Added Professional Development, Guided Reading Training, Balanced Literacy Conference, Tennessee First Grade Teacher Convention, and Tennessee School Improvement Planning Process Workshop; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Morrisett extends her considerable skills and talents to the greater Whitesburg Elementary School community, serving as a tutor for at-risk students and as a Chairperson of Discover Tennessee in 1996; she serves the school by supporting and volunteering with the basketball and football programs; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Talbott Church of God, Debbie Morrisett is a pianist on the Praise Team, a member of the decorations committee, and an assistant with the youth and children's church; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Morrisett is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Morrisett truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Morrisett truly epitomizes the paragon of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Ms. Debbie Morrisett on being chosen as the Whitesburg Elementary School Teacher of the Year, commend her exceptional service to the children of Hamblen County, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.